

Appl. No. 09/755,408
Atty. Docket No. 7903M
Amdt. Dated October 6, 2003
Reply to Final Office Action of August 5, 2003
Customer No. 27752

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the Application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) A container having a plurality of upstandable sidewalls interconnected by a floor pan and at least one upstanding strut articulably connected to said container sidewall, wherein at least one of said sidewalls is reinforceable with the at least one ~~of the~~ upstanding strut, wherein said strut releasably engages said container to reinforce said sidewall. said strut being removable from said sidewall without separation from said container.
2. (Canceled)
3. (Previously Presented) A container according to Claim 1, wherein said strut is articulably joined to said container at a hinge juxtaposed with said floor pan.
4. (Original) A container according to Claim 1, wherein said strut is attachable to said container at said distal end of said strut.
5. (Original) A container according to Claim 4, wherein said distal end of said strut is attachable with a tab/slot arrangement wherein one of said strut and said sidewalls have protruding tabs, the other having complementary slots attachable to said tabs.
- 6-7 (Canceled)
8. (Previously Presented) A container according to Claim 5, wherein said strut comprises a panel, said panel being substantially coextensive of and attachable to a sidewall of said container.
9. (Original) A container according to Claim 8, wherein said strut further comprises notches for gripping said strut by a user.
10. (Currently Amended) A container having a plurality of upstandable sidewalls interconnected by a floor pan, said sidewalls being arranged in alternating and opposed pairs, at least one pair of said sidewalls being reinforceable with removable struts, whereby a first sidewall and a second sidewall opposed thereto ~~has~~ have a first strut and a second strut articulably associated

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therewith, respectively, said struts being reversibly transformable between a first position wherein said struts releasably engage said container and provide reinforcement to said sidewalls and a second position wherein said struts at least partially disengage from said container and do not provide reinforcement to said sidewalls, ~~said struts being reversibly transformable between said first position and said second position.~~

11. (Original) A container according to Claim 10, further comprising a floor pan support.
12. (Previously Presented) A container according to Claim 11, wherein said reversibly transformable struts and said floor pan support are integral and comprise a single reinforcement.
13. (Previously Presented) A container according to Claim 11, wherein said container comprises a first material and said reinforcement comprises a second material, said first material and said second material being dissimilar.
14. (Previously Presented) A container according to Claim 13, wherein said reinforcement comprises fluted cardboard.
15. (Canceled)
16. (Original) A container according to Claim 12, wherein each of said struts is articulable about a proximal end, said proximal end being juxtaposed with said floor pan.
17. (Original) A container according to Claim 4, wherein said floor pan has an inner surface and an outer surface, said strut being removably attachable to said outer surface of said floor pan.
- 18-20 (Canceled)
21. (Currently Amended) A container having a plurality of upstandable sidewalls interconnected by a floor pan, at least one upstanding reinforcing panel releasably connected to at least one of said sidewalls, wherein at least one of said sidewalls is reinforceable with said at least one upstanding reinforceable panel, said reinforceable panel being ~~removable~~ releasable from said sidewall without separation from said container.

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22. (Currently Amended) A container according to Claim 21, wherein said reinforceable panel has a proximal end and a distal end, said reinforceable panel being articulably joined to said sidewall container at said proximal end.
23. (Previously Presented) A container according to Claim 22, wherein said reinforceable panel is articulably joined to said container at a hinge juxtaposed with said floor pan.
24. (Previously Presented) A container according to Claim 22, wherein said reinforceable panel is attachable to said container at said distal end of said reinforceable panel.
25. (Previously Presented) A container according to Claim 24, wherein said distal end of said reinforceable panel is attachable with a tab/slot arrangement wherein one of said reinforceable panel and said sidewalls have protruding tabs, the other having complementary slots attachable to said tabs.
26. (Previously Presented) A container according to Claim 25, wherein said reinforceable panel comprises a panel, said panel being substantially coextensive of and attachable to a sidewall of said container.
27. (Previously Presented) A container according to Claim 26, wherein said reinforceable panel further comprises notches for gripping said reinforceable panel by a user.
28. (Currently Amended) A container having a plurality of upstanding sidewalls interconnected by a floor pan, said sidewalls being arranged in alternating and opposed pairs, at least one pair of said sidewalls being reinforceable with removable reinforceable panels, whereby a first sidewall and a second sidewall opposed thereto ~~has~~ have a first reinforceable panel and a second reinforceable panel ~~articulably~~ associated therewith, respectively, said reinforceable panels being reversibly transformable between a first position wherein said reinforceable panels releasably engage said container and provide ~~provide~~ reinforcement to said sidewalls and a second position wherein said reinforceable panels do not provide reinforcement to said sidewalls, ~~said reinforceable panels being reversibly transformable between said first position and said second position.~~
29. (Previously Presented) A container according to Claim 28, further comprising a floor pan support.

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30. (Previously Presented) A container according to Claim 29, wherein said reversibly transformable reinforceable panels and said floor pan support are integral and comprise a single reinforcement.
31. (Previously Presented) A container according to Claim 29, wherein said container comprises a first material and said reinforcement comprises a second material, said first material and said second material being dissimilar.
32. (Previously Presented) A container according to Claim 31, wherein said reinforcement comprises fluted cardboard.
33. (Previously Presented) A container according to Claim 28, wherein each of said reinforceable panels is articulable about a proximal end, said proximal end being juxtaposed with said floor pan.
34. (Previously Presented) A container according to Claim 24, wherein said floor pan has an inner surface and an outer surface, said reinforceable panel being removably attachable to said outer surface of said floor pan.